

**REMARKS**

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 2–17 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Changes to the claims as presented herein, are not submitted for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are submitted simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 2–17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida (U.S. Patent 5,212,643) and De Jong (European Patent publication 0 378 271). In response, independent claims 2 and 9 have been amended to recite that: “a corresponding distance from the center of said circle or said arc of equidistant curve is displayed in a plane view.” (Claim 2; Claim 9 contains a similar limitation) The amended limitations are shown and supported by Figures 2B, 3, and 4. Accordingly, in addition to the present invention displaying a circle or portion thereof (i.e. an arc) which corresponds to a constant distance from the driver’s current position in perspective view, the distance corresponding to that circle is also displayed in a plane view on the map. Applicants believe the combination of a perspective view circle (or arc) and the corresponding distance in a plane view is not obvious in view of the teachings of Yoshida and De Jong. As noted by the Examiner, Yoshida does not teach displaying in a perspective

view. Also, De Jong does not teach displaying distance values on a perspective view display. Accordingly, there is no suggestion in either Yoshida or De Jong to combine a perspective view circle (or arc) and the corresponding distance in a plane view. Therefore, for at least this reason, Applicants believe claims 2–17 should now be allowed.

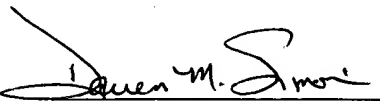
Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshida and De Jong, as discussed above, and further in view of Koyanagi (U.S. Patent 6,012,014). As discussed by the Examiner, Koyanagi describes an electronic map “that displays grid lines or latitude and longitude lines to show a scale on a perspective view of a map to give the user a sense of distance. See col. 1, line 63 – col. 2, line 10.” (Office Action page 5) However, the present invention’s circles/arcs are “displayed so that the constant distance for each equidistant curve corresponding to actual road distance is changed.” Hence, the present circles/arcs are different than the grid lines or latitude and longitude lines disclosed in Koyanagi. Accordingly, the combination of Yoshida, DeJong, and Koyanagi fails to obviate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,  
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